

## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



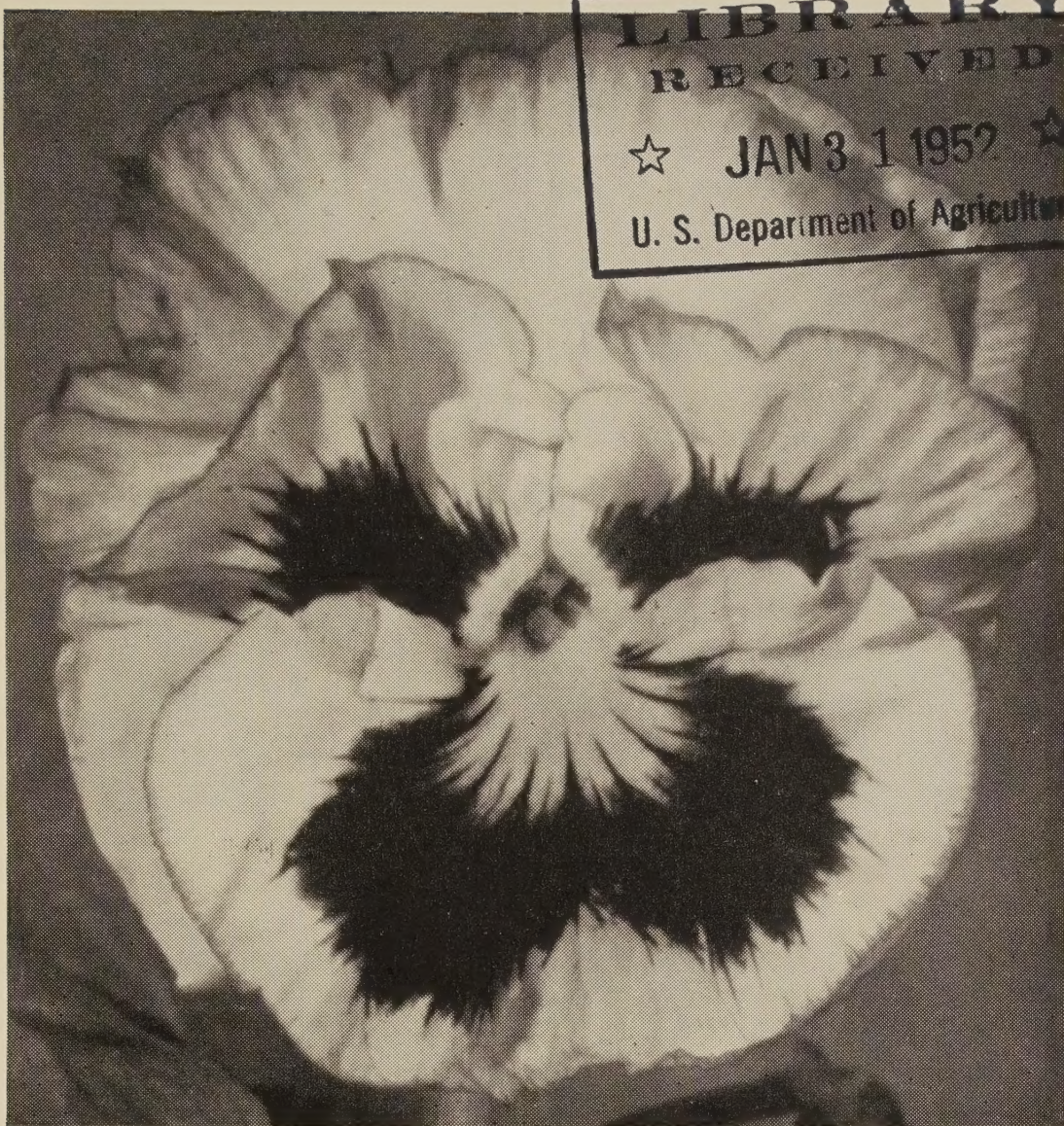


62.71

-1952-

Be

**LIBRARY**  
**RECEIVED**  
 ☆ JAN 31 1952 ☆  
 U. S. Department of Agriculture



● ● ● **FINEST GIANT RUFFLED PANSIES**

*The Strain That Does Not Disappoint*

Originated and  
 Grown by . . .

**MRS. MERTON G. ELLIS**

*Canby, Oregon*

This wonderful strain of **Giant Ruffled Pansies** originated and grown by **Mrs. Merton G. Ellis**, has become world famous. The immense blooms are of wonderful shades and coloring beyond all description. They have very heavy texture and sweet fragrance. They stand erect on very long strong stems and, cut with their very luxuriant foliage, just a few blooms arranged nicely make a gorgeous display.

In ideal pansy weather, we have had many blooms reach a diameter of 4 inches, some 4½ inches. Our climate is especially favorable for pansies. In hotter climates they may not reach over 3 or 3½ inches. In the spring they are at their best. They are not so large during the summer but in the fall they should again become large.

(We do not list the separate colors nor mail Pansy plants.)

**Your flower loving friend would appreciate a packet of OREGON GIANT PANSY SEED.**



*If You Want* **BETTER PANSIES**  
*Than Your Neighbor, Plant*

## **The OREGON GIANTS**

- Plant in late July, August, September or October for your spring pansy beds.
- Plant in the spring for your summer and fall beds

### *Finest Florists' Mixture . . .*

1 packet, 500 seeds.....	\$ 1.00
1 ounce .....	12.00
1/2 ounce .....	6.00

THE OREGON GIANTS with their immense blooms, long, strong stems and luxuriant foliage are used effectively as

### **CUT FLOWERS . . .**

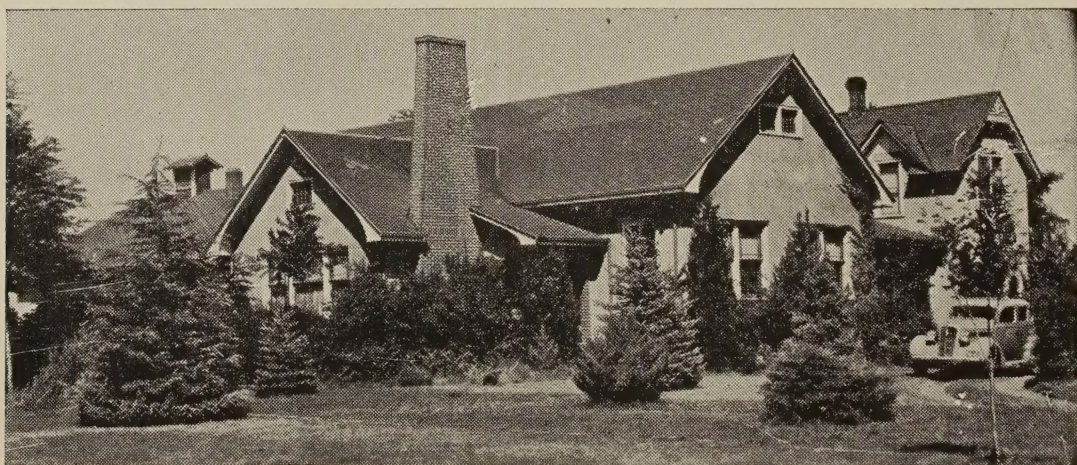
With their delicate fragrance and beauty, they are unsurpassed for table decoration, in the sick room and for all dainty floral uses.

The blooms are also used in funeral work. One customer in California writes:

"I make lovely floral pieces with The Oregon Giants. I pick the blooms the day before I want to use them and put them in water in the refrigerator over night. They will do well if one picks them in the evening, places them in water and lets them stand outside all night. They hold up just beautifully. I have made wreaths of them and they are fresher than a lot of other flowers I have seen at funerals. It is quite warm down here but they always hold up handled in this way."

*Increase Your Income by Growing*

**The OREGON GIANTS**



Our Offices, Store Rooms and Home



## Cultural Directions

It is a very satisfactory plan to make several sowings of seeds, so the Pansies will be at their best at different times.

In most climates best results are obtained by planting Pansy seed in late **July, August** or early **September** for early spring blooms.

If seed is planted in **October**, it is safer not to transplant the seedlings until spring, for in most climates they will not have time to become well established before the freezing weather sets in.

**Spring Planting** is desirable in climates too severe for the safe wintering over of plants. These should bloom profusely all summer, but will produce their largest blooms in the fall or during a cool rainy spell in summer if there should be one.

Prepare seed-boxes or flats for the seed, using good soil, slightly fertilized. If available, mix  $\frac{1}{3}$  leaf mold or peat moss with the soil. Sift the soil for the top half inch and use no fertilizer in that. Sow the seed thinly, broadcasting it. Sift just enough soil over the seed to **BARELY** cover it. Sift a thin layer of peat moss over this to help retain the moisture. Firm the soil by pressing with a flat board before sprinkling. Cover with a cloth or lath frame until the seed has germinated well. Sprinkle twice a day or often enough so that the seed **NEVER** dries out. Seed should germinate in from seven to fourteen days, depending upon conditions.

The seed beds should be protected during heavy storms or the tiny seedlings will be beaten down and perhaps ruined. More people fail to get good germination through sowing their seed too deep or letting it dry out than any other causes, so especial care should be taken in regard to that. But damping off may result if kept **too moist**, so it is better to sprinkle often rather than a great deal at a time. The shading with some kind of frame is also important because then they will not dry out so fast and there isn't so much danger of neglecting to sprinkle often enough.

Transplant when the seedlings have four or more leaves if weather conditions are favorable. Better let them become a little crowded than to transplant during a hot dry spell. Fall seedlings should be planted out in the open where they will get plenty of sunshine and where they will remain for spring blooming unless the winter is likely to be extremely severe. In such places they may need the protection of a cold frame but Pansies will stand even some zero weather if protected by straw or peat moss placed around the plants. Pansies that weather it through the winter out in the open will make the sturdiest plants and produce the largest, finest blooms in the early spring.

Pansies that are transplanted in the spring for summer blooming do well on the east side of some building where they will get the morning sun but not the hot afternoon sun. The north side gives pansies too much shade for good results.

Plants that are being grown for spring sales, may be set about six or eight inches apart in the row and the rows may be about fifteen or more inches apart, depending upon what method of cultivation is used. If plants are to remain all summer, they should be set about fifteen inches apart in the row.

Pansies want rich soil. Well rotted cow fertilizer seems to be the best for pansies, although rabbit, chicken, sheep and horse manures are good as well as bone-meal and other commercial fertilizers. It is a good plan to enrich the soil well, several months before time to transplant the seedlings.

In cultivating, leave the bed flat. Some people have a tendency to cultivate, raking the soil away from the plant so that each plant is left sitting on a little mound and this is likely to leave the side roots exposed. Rake the soil **toward** the plants; **not away** from them. Always cultivate after each irrigation as soon as the soil is in good workable condition. The dust mulch helps to conserve the moisture and it is not necessary to irrigate so often.

## Mrs. Merton G. Ellis

CANBY

(Closed on Sundays)

OREGON



## *Suggestions for Marketing*

### **PANSY PLANTS**

People in general want to buy Pansy plants in the spring and there is small retail demand for them at other times, so seed must be sown with this in mind.

There is demand for small plants with from four to six leaves early in the spring. They stand transplanting well and customers will obtain splendid results from them.

There is even greater demand for **blooming** plants in the spring. They look so attractive put up twelve to the Pansy basket, each plant bearing a giant bloom. Each plant should be wrapped separately with newspaper around the roots but not covering up all the foliage. Early in the spring these baskets sell for \$1.00 or more.

Often it pays better to wrap 50 to 75 plants separately and place them in a peach tray, letting customers select the plants they wish. They sell readily for ten cents each. People are willing to pay for the best. Later in the season the price is less.

Although there is a great demand for Pansy plants, yet, there is also much competition on public markets, etc., so it is important to have **BETTER PANSIES** than the others have.

In digging Pansies for market it is important to wait until a plant has had a bloom wide open for at least a week. The blooms increase in size greatly after first opening, especially in the spring. It sometimes takes patience to wait for them, but it pays.

There is also good demand from florists for small Pansy plants, transplanting size, in the fall. Some amateur gardeners also realize that it is better to buy small plants in the fall than blooming plants in the spring but in general the public buys the blooming plants.

### **PRIMROSES . . .**

These are very hardy, long-lived perennials. They will grow almost anywhere.

**Packet, 200 Seeds, Mixed.....\$1.00**

This is a very choice mixture, selected originally from several of the best strains and will produce a bed of gorgeous blooms that can be seen a long way off and cause people to "come and see." The bed continues beautiful for two or three months, especially in March, April and May.

### *Seed Sowing*

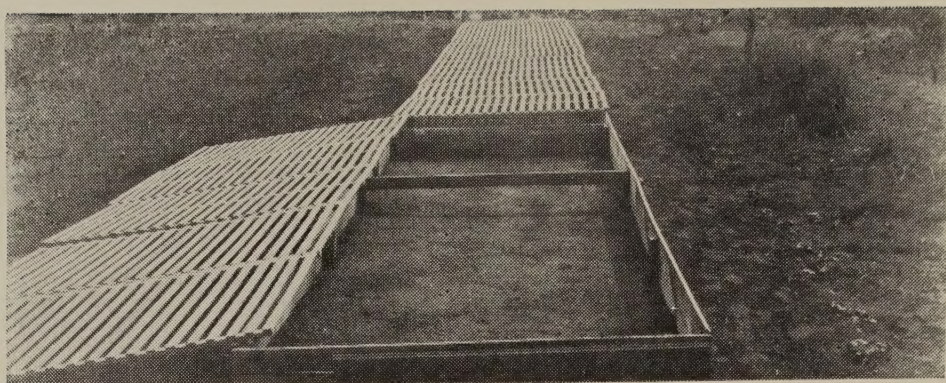
Prepare a deep flat or cold frame filled with good, rich garden soil mixed with peat-moss. Tamp firmly and sprinkle until it is damp all the way through. Then broadcast the seed rather thinly and **barely** cover with sifted peat-moss mixed with sifted soil. Tamp firmly again. Shade the cold frame with lath or cloth frame and **NEVER** allow it to dry out.

Fresh seed sown in summer or early fall germinates quickly, —in about a week or ten days. If sown in early spring, it takes about three weeks. Alternate freezing and thawing of the seed in a refrigerator before sowing assists germination. Summer and fall seedlings should remain in the cold frame all winter, mulched with dead leaves. Primroses lose their leaves during the winter but will come again in early spring. Then they should be transplanted to their permanent bed, at least 12 inches apart. Seedlings from spring sowing may be transplanted as soon as they are large enough to handle well. They will bloom beautifully the following spring and the plants will last many years. They may be divided and re-set to make more plants if desired, a few weeks after the blooming season is over.

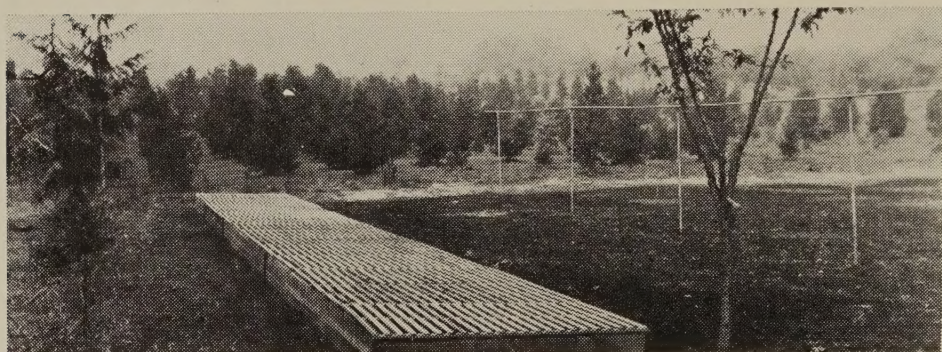
Primroses do well in partial shade or in open sun where they are shaded somewhat by other perennials. They like very rich, loose soil with good drainage and **PLENTY** of moisture. Irrigating after the blooming season should not be neglected.



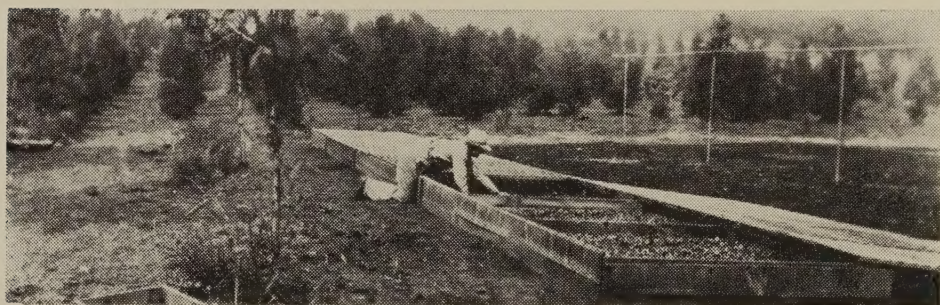




Sections in the foreground are ready to be sown; those in the rear have seed germinating, shaded by the lath frames.



Showing the cold-frame in which are Pansy seedlings, being shaded by lath frames.



Weeding the seed-bed.

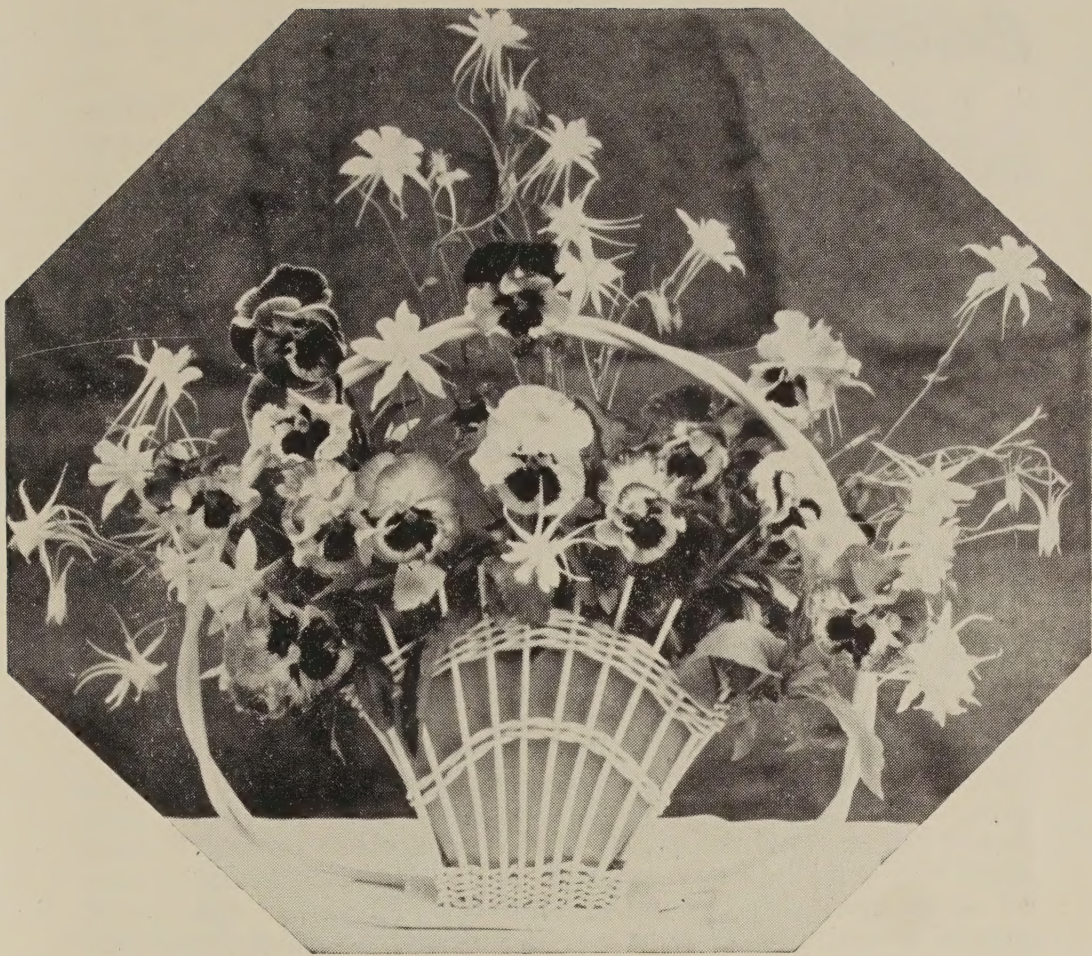
A cold frame is ideal for germinating Pansy seeds. The one shown in these pictures is 60 x 6 ft. but it may be made similarly on a much smaller scale if desired.

Only half of the cold frame is shown, because a very important part is underground. In order to exclude moles and gophers the soil was first dug out to a depth of about ten inches and made very level. Then boards were sunk to that depth all around it and galvanized wire screen of  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch mesh was laid completely over the floor of the seed bed and nailed to the boards around it so it would be mole-proof. Then soil, etc., was filled in even with the ground as described on the preceding page.

The lath frames are made in sections, the length of a lath by six feet, so they may be removed easily. The laths are nailed  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches apart. This seems to make sufficient shade, allows good ventilation, and the seedlings do not become as tender as they would under glass. Cloth frames would be advisable in places where the seed beds need protection from heavy storms. When seed is sown late in the fall or early spring, hot-bed sash is preferable to the lath frames, although the lath frames may be placed on top of the glass on very warm days for shade.

A very simple method for those growing a small quantity of plants is to use a box about eight inches deep, placed in full sunshine. For shading this, slit open a flour sack; tack one side of it to the back of the box at the top, make a wide hem in the opposite side of the cloth through which a narrow board may be placed to weight it down so the wind won't blow it off. This covering may be easily thrown back for sprinkling. If one is troubled with snails, ants, etc., eating the seed or seedlings, set the box on a table with the legs placed in cans of water.





## *Columbine or Aquilegia . . .*

**Packet, 200 Seeds . . . 50c**

This is a very choice strain, the seed plants being selected from the famous Mrs. Scott Elliott hybrids and other choice strains.

The graceful, long spurred Columbine is one of the most satisfactory of the perennials. It blooms at a time when flowers are scarce, helping out greatly on Decoration Day, Mothers' and Fathers' Days, Commencements, weddings, etc. It gives a particularly beautiful lacey effect in baskets, combined with Pansies or other flowers, using the Columbine as a background and adding height to the general effect, as is shown in the photo above. Columbine works up nicely in funeral designs and is also beautiful in the garden. It blooms for a long period. It does best in partial shade but will thrive also in the sunshine. The seed may be planted in the spring, summer or fall. If planted in the fall, it would be best not to transplant until spring.

Columbine plants lose their leaves during the winter but will come again early in the spring. The plants live for many years, growing larger and blooming profusely. In some places it may take two years for them to start blooming but they are worth waiting for. Seed sowing and transplanting directions are the same as for pansies.

## **DELPHINIUM SEED . . .**

The **PACIFIC STRAIN** is pronounced by experts to be the most striking advance in Delphinium hybridizing in recent years, and has brought fame to its originator, Mr. Reinelt. These fine Delphiniums will add much beauty to your garden. Many of the florets are very large and exquisitely beautiful. We predict a great future for this strain.

**Per packet, 200 Seeds, Mixed . . . \$1.00**

It takes a little longer for Delphinium seed to germinate than Pansy seed, but they should come if the seed is fresh. The fresher Delphinium seed is, the better it will germinate, so mid-summer sowing is recommended. It takes two years for Delphiniums to be at their best and they will live several years. They lose their leaves during the winter.

Delphiniums have two distinct blooming seasons, sometimes three. The blooms should not be allowed to go to seed, to secure best results. It is well to cut the plants back after a blooming season. Bone meal in moderation is good but not too close to the plants.



